Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/633,554	SHIMADA, HIDEO	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Felix O. Figueroa	2833	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to *the telephonic communication held on April 8, 2005*.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are *1-6,12 and 13*.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on *05 August 2003* are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
   a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
      1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
      2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .
      3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

   * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
   (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
      1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
   (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

   Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date *20050408* .
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

THO D. TA
PRIMARY EXAMINER

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Paul I. Kravetz on April 8, 2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the abstract, in line 5, change "comprises" to --includes--.

Amend the claims as shown in the pages attached at the end of this Office action.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art fails to teach or suggest a plurality of sockets disposed adjacent to each other and having accommodating surface portions with a same height, a cover rotatably attached to the each of the sockets and an electrical part mounted over the accommodating surface portions so as to bridge the accommodating portions, in combination with the remaining limitations of the claims.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Felix O. Figueroa whose telephone number is (571) 272-2003. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri., 10:00am-6:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paula A. Bradley can be reached on (571) 272-2800 Ext. 33. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

ffr

THO D. TA
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Attachment

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Please CANCEL claims 8, 9, 10 and 11, without prejudice or disclaimer.
Please AMEND the claims as indicated below:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A plurality of ~~socket~~ sockets for an electrical part, the plurality of sockets being disposed adjacently to each other, and each socket comprising ~~which comprises~~:

a socket body which is mounted on a circuit board and accommodates the electrical part; and

a contact pin disposed in the socket body, through which the circuit board and the electrical part are electrically connected, the socket body comprising

an accommodating surface portion to accommodate the electrical part and having first and second end portion sides,

a cover supporting member attached to the first end portion side of the accommodating surface,

a cover member having first and second end portion sides, the cover member rotatably attached to the cover supporting member at the first end portion side of the cover member, and

an engaging member attached to the second end portion side of the accommodating surface portion, to engage the second end portion side of the cover member, wherein

the socket has first and second opposite sides,

a height of the accommodating surface portion is approximately a same height as that of ~~an~~ a ~~first~~ socket disposed adjacently to the first opposite side ~~and as that of a second socket disposed adjacently to~~ or the second opposite side, and

~~when a plurality of the sockets are disposed adjacently to each other,~~ the electrical part is ~~mountable~~mounted over a plurality of accommodating surface portions of the plurality of sockets, respectively, in such a manner as to bridge the plurality of accommodating surface portions.

2. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The plurality of ~~socket~~ sockets for an electrical part according to claim 1, wherein, for each socket, the accommodating surface portion is a floating plate made to be vertically moveable and urged upward, the floating plate having a through hole through which the contact pin is inserted.

3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The plurality of ~~socket~~ sockets for an electrical part according to claim 1, wherein, for each socket, a peripheral edge portion of the accommodating surface portion is formed to be positioned at a place close to a peripheral edge portion of the accommodating surface portion of another socket disposed adjacent to the socket.

4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The plurality of ~~socket~~ sockets for an electrical part according to claim 3, wherein, for each socket, the contact pins are disposed up to the peripheral edge portion of the accommodating surface portion.

5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The plurality of ~~socket~~ sockets for an electrical part according to claim 1, each socket further comprising:

a pressing member for pressing the electrical part, the pressing member being attached to the cover member and including pressing portions lined up in a plurality of rows.

6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A plurality of ~~socket~~ sockets for an electrical part, each socket comprising:

a socket body to be mounted on a circuit board and to accommodate the electrical part; and

a plurality of contact pins disposed in the socket body, through which the circuit board and the electrical part are electrically connected, wherein

the socket body comprises

a contact unit in which the contact pins are disposed, the contact unit having first and second end portion sides,

a cover supporting member attached to the first end portion side of the contact unit, the cover supporting member having a cover member rotatably attached to the cover supporting member, and

an engaging member for engaging a front edge portion side of the cover member, the engaging member being provided at the second end portion side of the contact unit, and

the contact unit includes an accommodating surface portion to accommodate the electrical part, a height of the accommodating surface portion having an approximately same height as that of an adjacent socket so that~~, when~~ a plurality of the sockets are disposed adjacently to each other, and the electrical part is ~~mountable~~ mounted over a plurality of accommodating surface portions of the plurality of sockets, respectively, so as to bridge the plurality of accommodating surface portions.

7. (CANCELED)

8. (CANCELED)

9. (CANCELED)

10. (CANCELED)

11. (CANCELED)

12. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A plurality of sockets disposed adjacently to each other on a circuit board, each socket comprising:

a contact pin;

a socket body comprising an accommodating surface portion having a same height as the accommodating surface portion of each of the other of the plurality of sockets so that~~, when the plurality of sockets are disposed adjacently to each other on a circuit board,~~ an electrical part is ~~mountable~~ mounted over the accommodating surface portions of the plurality of sockets, respectively, so as to bridge the plurality of accommodating surface portions; and

a cover member rotatably attached to the socket body and having an opened and closed position so that~~, when the plurality of sockets are disposed adjacently to each other on a circuit board and an electrical part is mounted over the accommodating surface portions of the plurality of sockets, respectively, so as to bridge the plurality of accommodating surface portions, and~~ the cover member is rotated from the opened position to the closed position~~,~~ to thereby press the electrical part ~~is pressed~~ which thereby causes the electrical part to be electrically connected with the circuit board via the contact pin.

13. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A plurality of sockets disposed adjacently to each other on a circuit board, each socket comprising:

a contact pin;

a socket body comprising an accommodating surface portion having a same height as the accommodating surface portion of each of the other of the plurality of sockets so that~~, when the plurality of sockets are disposed adjacently to each other on a circuit board,~~ an electrical part is ~~mountable~~ mounted over the accommodating surface portions of the plurality of sockets, respectively, so as to bridge the plurality of accommodating surface portions;

a cover member rotatably attached to the socket body and having an opened and closed position; and

means, when ~~the plurality of sockets are disposed adjacently to each other on a circuit board and an electrical part is mounted over the accommodating surface portions of the plurality of sockets, respectively, so as to bridge the plurality of accommodating surface portions, and~~ the cover member is rotated from the opened position to the closed position, for pressing the electrical part to thereby cause the electrical part to be electrically connected with the circuit board via the contact pin.